

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: M. HANNUKSELA
Serial No.: Not yet assigned
Filed: May 15, 2001
For: VIDEO CODING
Group: Not yet assigned
Examiner: Not yet assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 15, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising comparing the default reference picture with a plurality of further reference pictures and outputting an indicator for each further reference picture that meets the predetermined criterion.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the indicator is included in a picture header.

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6. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the video signal is encoded according to H.263 video compression standard and the indicator is included in the Supplemental Enhancement Information.

7. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the comparison is carried out for portions of a picture at a time.

12. (Amended) A radio telecommunications device including at least one of a video encoder and a video and a video decoder,

wherein said video encoder comprises:

an input for receiving a video signal representing a sequence of pictures, an input for receiving a current picture for encoding, a predictive coder for forming a temporal prediction of the current picture from a default reference picture for the current picture, a comparator for comparing the default reference picture of the current picture with at least one further reference picture and calculating a measure of the similarity and, when the measure of similarity meets a pre-determined criterion, outputting an indicator identifying the further reference picture; and

wherein said video decoder comprises:

an input for receiving an encoded video signal representing a sequence of pictures, the encoded signal including pictures that have been encoded by forming a temporal prediction of a current picture from a default reference picture for the current picture, the decoder comprising an input for receiving an encoded video signal representing a current picture wherein, when the decoder is unable to decode the default reference picture of the current picture, the decoder is arranged to examine an indicator identifying a further reference picture and to decode the current picture with reference to said further reference picture is such an indicator is associated with the current picture.

Please add new claim 13 as follows:

-- 13. A method according to claim 2, wherein the indicator is included in a picture header.--

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up copy version of the changes made to the claims by the current Amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

Entry of the above amendments prior to examination is respectfully requested.

[illegible]

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~or 2~~ further comprising comparing the default reference picture with a plurality of further reference pictures and outputting an indicator for each further reference picture that meets the predetermined criterion.

5. (Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the indicator is included in a picture header.

6. (Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the video signal is encoded according to H.263 video compression standard and the indicator is included in the Supplemental Enhancement Information.

7. (Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the comparison is carried out for portions of a picture at a time.

12. (Amended) A radio telecommunications device including
an at least one of a video encoder and a video and a video
~~according to claim 10 and/or a decoder, according to claim 1,~~

wherein said video encoder comprises:

an input for receiving a video signal representing a
sequence of pictures, an input for receiving a current picture
for encoding, a predictive coder for forming a temporal
prediction of the current picture from a default reference
picture for the current picture, a comparator for comparing the
default reference picture of the current picture with at least
one further reference picture and calculating a measure of the
similarity and, when the measure of similarity meets a pre-
determined criterion, outputting an indicator identifying the
further reference picture; and

wherein said video decoder comprises:

an input for receiving an encoded video signal
representing a sequence of pictures, the encoded signal including
pictures that have been encoded by forming a temporal prediction
of a current picture from a default reference picture for the
current picture, the decoder comprising an input for receiving an
encoded video signal representing a current picture wherein, when
the decoder is unable to decode the default reference picture of
the current picture, the decoder is arranged to examine an
indicator identifying a further reference picture and to decode

the current picture with reference to said further reference picture is such an indicator is associated with the current picture.

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